

CLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~Official Document~~ ~~Report~~

REPORT

COUNTRY

1. ~~XXXXXX~~ ~~XXXXXX~~ in the 1635 in Jaworzno

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TOPIC

2. KBN Unit in Neustadt and Army Unit in Bochnia

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

27 October 1954

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Prior to 7 March 1954, a labor battalion [] was located in a [] about 800 meters southeast of the Jaworzno (Q 51/Y 76) railroad station and east of the railroad line to Chrzanow (Q 51/Y 85). It was subordinate to a headquarters in Katowice (Q 51/Y 57) which was commanded by a colonel. [] this headquarters was controlled by an agency stationed at Krakow (Q 51/Z 24). Other labor battalions were known to be in Oswiecim (Q 51/Y 74) and Sosnowiec (Q 51/Y 67). The battalion stationed at Oswiecim [] was scheduled to be assigned to a Polish tank unit of the Krieg (P 51/H 89) station [] the event of war.

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2. Battalion [] whose total strength slightly exceeded 1,000 men was organized into five companies and one headquarters. Four of these companies were merely labor companies. The 5th Co provided a gus50X1-HUM platoon and workers who worked in the pit. The companies were organized into four platoons each of which had four squads. Due to the assignment of recruits, the strength of the battalion was temporarily raised in October and November, and April of every year. The recruits were organized into two additional training companies from which they were finally reassigned to the five normally existing companies of the battalion after a four weeks' training course and the discharge of the reservists. Since the fall of 1953, soldiers of the 1928 through 1933 classes who came from all parts of Poland had belonged to the battalion. The Germans among the soldiers were estimated to be about 25 percent.

[] The labor soldiers wore khaki Polish Army uniforms without collar patches, and epaulets of the same color. Soldiers on duty and at work wore the four-cornered garrison cap (Rogatiwka), while soldiers on leave wore round visor-type service caps and red cap bands. Every soldier had one uniform and, in winter, two fabric overcoats. The men received no steel helmets, gas masks, field bags, mess kits, etc.

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3. Officers of the battalion included

Captain Małkowski (phonetic spelling) (fnu)	battalion commander
Lieutenant Kornosz " " "	deputy commander
Captain Nowakowski " " "	supply officer
Staff Sergeant (officer candidate) Piasecki (phonetic spelling) (fnu)	one of the political officers
Staff Sergeant (officer candidate) Harwankowski (phonetic spelling) (fnu)	commander of the 3d Co.

4. The battalion had 40 good rifles which were used for guard service and record practices, and about 200 old, discarded rifles which were used for drill and marksmanship training. Some model-M1941 PPSh submachine guns were used for instruction purposes. Prior to the spring of 1954, no other weapons were available for instruction and training, nor were any weapons or ammunitions stored in the billeting area in case of alarm or mobilization. The battalion had two trucks which were used for supply. Training during the four weeks' basic training course included formal drill and marching exercises, marksmanship training with rifles and the simplest basic practices of combat training. There were no night exercises and no instruction in map-reading or use of the compass. Blank cartridges were never used.

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Political indoctrination was essentially intensified and included political instruction, discussions and the study of newspapers. After the recruits' reassignment to the labor companies, the soldiers who worked eight hours daily received an additional two hours' military training which was given in the form of political instruction twice a week.

5. Every soldier received a payment of 8 zloty per month. Soldiers working in the pit also received wages which averaged 1,000 to 1,200 zloty a month for underground workers and were to be paid by the pit management. About 40 percent of these wages were paid out and the balance was retained by the battalion. The morale of the troops was bad, all the more so as the members of the labor battalions were considered second-rate soldiers. This kind of active service was generally regarded as being done under duress. Comradeship among the soldiers was very good, so that superiors were frequently unable to enforce their will against this concord. Punishments for breaches of discipline were frequently inflicted.

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desertion

only one case of

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6. A small KBW (Internal Security) unit whose soldiers wore blue service color was also stationed at Jaworzno. This unit which had about company size was believed to be connected with the large prison located there. 1
7. Prior to September 1953, the barracks installation on the west side of the Linden (P 51/H 93) road on the southwestern perimeter of Neustadt (P 51/H 93) quartered about one KBW (Internal Security) battalion.

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It had formerly been occupied by a WOP (Border Guard) unit which had moved some time ago. The numerous submachine guns with which the soldiers of the KBW (Internal Security) unit were equipped were conspicuous. In March 1954, soldiers who wore khaki uniforms and blue service color were still observed at the station. In the summer of 1952 and 1953, a tent camp at which KBW (Internal Security) units held their summer exercises was observed about 1 kilometer south of the perimeter of the city. 2

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8. The recruiting office (WKR) which was responsible for the district of Neustadt was located in Neisse (P 51/H 75).

1. [REDACTED] Comment. This present information agrees with several previous reports. [REDACTED] 20 labor battalions are located in the Upper Silesian industrial area. 50X1-HUM
2. [REDACTED] Comment. The present information confirms a previous report [REDACTED] The 15th KBW (Internal Security) Regt is known to be located in Neustadt. 50X1-HUM

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